



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

July 8, 2003

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT EXCESS FUNDS
TO THE CITY OF COMMERCE AND THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
FOR THE UNION PACIFIC POCKET PARK,
AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS,
AND AUTHORIZE REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS INCURRED FOR
UNION PACIFIC POCKET PARK
(FIRST DISTRICT - 3 - VOTE MATTER)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD

1. Allocate First Supervisorial District Excess Funds in the total amount of \$592,000 to the City of Commerce for the development of Union Pacific Pocket Park.
2. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation (Director) to reduce the Various First District Improvements Excess Funds grant to the County by \$216,000.
3. Allocate First Supervisorial District Excess Funds in the amount of \$808,000, including \$200,000 in funds previously allocated by your Board, to the County of Los Angeles (County) for the development of Union Pacific Pocket Park.
4. Authorize the Director to award these grant funds when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.
5. Authorize the Director, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District), to reimburse eligible costs incurred prior to the execution of the grant project agreement for development of Union Pacific Pocket Park.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommendations will allocate funds for development of Union Pacific Park in the First Supervisorial District and provide for administration of the grants under existing Regional Park and Open Space District guidelines.

According to the Community Development Commission the estimated development cost for the project is \$3,039,304. The First Supervisorial District allocated \$1,089,304 in Community Development Block Grant funds to the project leaving a balance of \$1,950,000 to be funded with Excess Funds. That amount is comprised of \$550,000 previously allocated to the project and the \$1,400,000 recommended in the Board action as follows:

- \$550,000 previously allocated to the County
- \$200,000 previously allocated to the County but requiring reallocation
- \$216,000 previously allocated to the County for a Various First District Improvements Grant
- \$392,000 new allocation to the County
- \$592,000 new allocation to the City of Commerce.

The Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) provides a method for determining each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. A total of \$5,022,458 of Excess Funds is available for allocation in the First Supervisorial District, as shown in the Attachment, including \$592,040.20 available for allocation to the County. To provide sufficient funds to make the recommended \$808,000 allocation to the County for the Union Pacific Pocket Park Project, we are recommending that the Director be authorized to reduce, by \$216,000, the Various First District Improvements amount granted to the County in Fiscal Year 2002-2003. We are recommending allocation of a total of \$1,400,000 to the City of Commerce and the County of Los Angeles for the creation of Union Pacific Pocket Park.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award the grants, when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board. The Director will determine that the applications for the funds are for projects eligible to receive District funding.

Acquisition and development of the Union Pacific Pocket Park Project is being implemented by the Community Development Commission. Recommended allocations in the amounts of \$592,000 to the City of Commerce and \$808,000 to the County Department of Parks and Recreation will both be used to create the Union Pacific Pocket Park, located in an unincorporated area adjacent to the City of Commerce. In a related item on today's agenda the Department is recommending assignment, to the

Community Development Commission, of the right to apply for \$808,000 recommended for allocation to the County in this action to the Union Pacific Pocket Park Project. Likewise, the City of Commerce has agreed to assign to the Community Development Commission the right to apply for the \$592,000 recommended for allocation to that City for the Union Pacific Pocket Park.

Your Board has previously allocated \$750,000 in First Supervisorial District Excess Funds for this project, including an allocation of \$550,000 to the County for land acquisition on June 18, 2002, and an allocation of \$200,000 for development on December 17, 2002. On December 3, 2002, your Board approved the County Parks and Recreation Department recommendation to assign to the Community Development Commission the County's right to apply for the \$550,000 allocated for land acquisition. The \$200,000 allocation lapsed on June 30, 2003, and those funds are being reallocated to the County in this action.

In another related item on today's agenda, the Community Development Commission is requesting to authorize its staff to apply for these funds and to implement the Union Pacific Pocket Park Project.

The Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel grants, approved by your Board for the administration of Excess Funds grants, delegates to the Director of Parks and Recreation the authority to reimburse eligible project costs if those costs are incurred subsequent to your Board's approval of the project. Because costs toward the Union Pacific Pocket Park Project have been incurred prior to Board approval of the grant, your Board's approval is required to authorize the District to reimburse those costs.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Service Excellence), Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility) and Goal 6 (Community Service) by allowing your Board to allocate Excess Funds to the City of Commerce and County for the Union Pacific Pocket Park project by administering these grant funded projects.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the two grants for the project, in the amount of \$1,400,000, is budgeted from the First Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6. Funds for the grants are available from the First Supervisorial District's portion of the Regional Park and Open Space District allocations for additional capital projects in Fiscal Year 2002-03 Excess Funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition provides for an annual determination of the availability of excess funds and for allocation of such funds for capital projects in four categories. The recommended grants would be funded from the amounts identified for the First Supervisorial District, as shown in the Attachment.

The 1996 Proposition requires that cities to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 have all such funds encumbered before they may receive grants of Excess Funds. The 1996 Proposition also requires that Excess Funds be awarded to the County in the same total amount as is awarded to cities in the same fiscal year. The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997 and used since then for the administration of similar grant projects. The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended project will provide additional recreational and open space opportunities to residents of the First Supervisorial District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

These actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Section 15061 (b) (3) of the Guidelines for the Implementation of the CEQA because it can be seen with certainty that these action will have no impact on the environment. Any projects funded through the District are required to undergo the applicable CEQA review.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Office-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and to return three conformed copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,



For

Tim Gallagher
Director, Parks and Recreation

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel

Attachment

REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT
EXCESS FUNDS
As of June 30, 2003

First Supervisorial District

Allocation Category	(A) Cumulative Funds	(B) Previous Allocations	(A-B) Available for Allocations	(C) Allocations This Action	Balance
Highest Priority Regional Open Space and Recreation Projects (Specified)	\$4,002,854.40	\$ (250,000.00)	\$3,752,854.40	\$0	\$3,752,854.40
Cities	\$2,001,427.20	\$(1,409,387.00)	\$ 592,040.20	\$592,000	\$40.20
County	\$2,001,427.20	\$(1,409,387.00)	\$ 592,040.20	\$808,000*	\$40.20
<u>Competitive</u>	<u>\$ 889,523.20</u>	<u>\$ (804,000.00)</u>	<u>\$ 85,523.20</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$85,523.20</u>
<u>District Total</u>	<u>\$8,895,232.00</u>	<u>\$(3,872,774.00)</u>	<u>\$5,022,458.00</u>	<u>\$1,400,000</u>	<u>\$3,838,458.00</u>

* Includes \$216,000 from reduction of Various First District Improvements (part of the amount shown in County Previous Allocations)